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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/788,611	02/21/2001	Richard Carr	1330.1089	4560

21171 7590 11/02/2004  
STAAS & HALSEY LLP  
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WASHINGTON, DC 20005

EXAMINER

AKERS, GEOFFREY R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3625

DATE MAILED: 11/02/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/788,611

Applicant(s)

CARR ET AL. 

Examiner

Geoffrey Akers

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 July 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4-8,10-13,16-25,28-34,38-44,47-55,59-66 and 68-92 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4-8,10-13,16-25,28-34,38-44,47-55,59-66,68-92 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Response to Amendment***

1. This action is issued in reply to applicant's Amendment filed 7/22/04.
2. Claims 3,9,14-15,26-27,35-37,45-46,56-58 and 67 were canceled.
3. Claims 1-2,4-8,10-13,16-25,28-34,38-44,47-55,59-66,68-92 are pending.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

4. Claims 1-2,4-8,10-13,16-25,28-34,38-44,47-55,59-66,68-92 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Ojha(US Pat. No: 6,598,026) in view of Cameron(US Pat. No: 5,839,117). The rejections cited in the Non Final Office Action are maintained and referenced.

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***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101***

5. Claims 32-34,38-44,47-55,59-61 are rejected under 35 USC 101 as lacking technology and failing to define a concrete useful and tangible result. The claims lack a technology for their functional implementation.

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***Response to Arguments***

6. Ojha teaches a plurality of organizational profiles maintaining business rules(Fig 13A-Fig 13K)(Abstract)(col 14 line 49-col 17 line 16). Ojha teaches making counteroffers and further negotiation in the Internet, where such ongoing interaction dynamically maintains organizational profiles(col 4 lines 65-67) as well as bundled transactions(col 6 lines 23-32)(col 6 line 61-col 7 line 11) and associated business rules.Cameron teaches a computerized shared(Fig 1/7)e-procurement system(Abstract)(col 4 line 46-col 6 line

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4).Cameron teaches workflow rules in which approval is sought from multiple parties in a sequence(Fig 13)(Fig 12)(Fig 14)(Fig 15)(Fig 16)(col 10 line 40-col 13 line 16).

**Conclusion**

**7. THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.**

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8. Any questions concerning this communication should be addressed to the primary examiner of record, Dr. Geoffrey Akers, P.E., who can be reached between 6:30 AM and 5:00 PM Monday through Friday at 703-306-5844. If attempts to contact the primary examiner are unsuccessful, the primary examiner's superior, Mrs. Wynn Coggins, SPE, may be telephoned at (703)-308-1344.

The fax number for Formal or Official faxes and Draft or Informal faxes to Technology Center 3600 or this Art Unit is (703)-308-3687. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703)-308-1113.

October 31,2004



DR. GEOFFREY R. AKERS, P.E.  
PRIMARY EXAMINER